

**MTSA Regulations found at 33 CFR Subchapter H**  
**Part 104—Vessels & Part 105—Facilities.**

**#04-03 JANUARY 8, 2004---POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL FAQ**

**Q.** Will SOLAS foreign flagged cruise ships be required to meet the applicable regulations in 33 CFR Part 120 once they receive an International Ship Security Certificate (ISSC)?

Will cruise ship facilities that have current security plans required by 33 CFR Part 128 and developed pursuant to the guidance in Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) 4-02 be required to submit security a security plan for approval under the MTSA?

**Ans.** The regulations in 33 CFR 120 and 128 and NVIC 4-02 will remain in effect until July 1, 2004. Accordingly, the U.S. Coast Guard will not require foreign flagged passenger ships to resubmit a security plan prior to July 1, 2004.

If a new foreign flagged passenger ship commences operations and the flag State issues a valid ISSC, and that vessel has fully implemented the International Ship & Port Facility Security Code security plan, that vessel will not be required to submit a security plan to the U.S. Coast Guard.

All required facilities including cruise ship terminals must submit to the U.S. Coast Guard, by 31 December 2003, a security plan for review and approval in order to be in compliance with the MTSA regulations.

**NOTE** For further guidance, a facility owner/operator should contact their local Captain of the Port (COTP/FMSC).